"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19-20).

- For the most part I (Clifford Chavez) think we as Christians (especially in the west) put the emphasis in the wrong place: "**GO** therefore and make disciples of all nations."
- What Jesus is emphasizing is, "Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations."

Go — *poreuō*: To go or proceed in any way or course of life; live in any manner; as you go.

As You Go, Make Disciples
Much more than making converts by reciting a prayer.
Much more than training someone to win an argument.
Much more than adding names to a list.
It's becoming Christ like. To become like the Master.

Disciple — *mathetes*: A learner, a student, someone who is being taught.

- It appears over 250 times in the NT.
- The word "Christian" appears only 3 times.
- The early church referred to themselves as disciples.

Acts 6:7 "And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith."

By definition, a disciple is a follower, one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another. A Christian disciple is a person who follows Jesus Christ and accepts and assists in the spreading of the good news of salvation through Him. Christian discipleship is the process by which disciples grow in the Lord Jesus Christ and are equipped by the indwelling Holy Spirit to overcome the pressures and trials of this present life and become more and more Christ like. This process requires believers to respond to the Holy Spirit's prompting to examine their thoughts, words, and actions and compare them with the Word of God. This requires that we be in the Word daily—studying it, praying over it, and obeying it. In addition, we should always be ready to give testimony of the reason for the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15) and to disciple others to walk in His way.

John 8:31-32 "So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Matthew 28:16-20 "Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

"Discipleship is not just believing the right things. It is learning how to live in the way of Jesus Christ in everyday life. It is not limited to a church service or a study. It shows up in your decisions, your relationships, and how you respond to what God is doing around you.

A disciple is someone who follows Jesus, learns from Him, and begins to live like Him. That means discipleship is not only about collecting knowledge. It is about apprenticeship. It is about becoming someone who listens, obeys, and grows over time. At Ordinary Movement, we define it this way: a disciple is someone who follows Jesus by obeying His teachings and lifestyle. Discipleship is an intentional pursuit of disciple-making by modeling and teaching the ways of Christ, pointing disciples to take ownership of their faith so they can, in turn, disciple others." ordinarymovement.com/library/how-to-become-a-disciple

How does one become a disciple?

To become a disciple, absolutely begins with a choice. It has to be a priority. A disciple holds on, keeps following, and keeps learning.

Apprentice:

1. One bound by legal agreement to work for another for a specific amount of time in return for instruction in a trade, art, or business.
2. One who is learning a trade or occupation, especially as a member of a labor union.
3. A beginner; a learner.

Jesus shadowed His father and no doubt learned whatever trade he was in. Jesus was an apprentice. A Hebrew sage was quoted as saying this about 2 centuries before Jesus about wise men: "Sit in the dust of their feet and drink in their words with thirst."

How does one make disciples?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them

diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

2 Timothy 2:1-7 "You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything."

Luke 6:40 "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher."

- The goal of discipleship is to replicate.
- Take advantage of any and all opportunities.
- Understand that this will require sacrifice.
- Ask the Father to reveal anything that would bring disrepute to His name.
- It starts with salvation; we need to introduce them to Jesus.

John 9:35-38 "Jesus heard that they had thrown him out [of the synagogue], and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him."

Salvation in Christ brings a change to one's nature: "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Discipleship is marked by a commitment to the Lord, obedience to His commands.

Instruct Them in Obedience

Biblical obedience is not necessarily checking a box of compliance but rather allowing the Holy Spirit to realign our way of thinking to conform with the masters.

Those who know and trust in Jesus for their salvation now continue the journey of discipleship in obedience. According to Jesus, obedience is a proof of love for Him. In

Ephesians 4:22-23 Paul says, "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, to be made new in the attitude of your minds."

Ephesians 4:21-24 "Assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Galatians 5:16-17 "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do."

Become a Disciple, and You Will Make Disciples

The multiplication of disciples is a crucial element of Jesus' call of Peter and Andrew: "And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men'" (Matthew 4:19).

2 Timothy 2:1-2 "You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

Discipleship is not a program. It is a lifelong calling as well as a process "growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Over time ordinary people, living faithfully, become extraordinary and their influence grows. They impact their families, their communities, and their churches.

When people are given a, repeatable discipleship example, things begin to shift. Discipleship becomes something they live. They begin to take ownership. They begin to lead. And they begin to help others follow Jesus in the same way.

Churches begin to shift as well. Instead of being places where people only consume content, they become environments where people are equipped to make disciples. Leadership is no longer limited to a few. It is carried by ordinary men and women who are willing to take the next step.